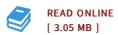




Russia s Unfinished Revolution: Political Change from Gorbachev to Putin (Paperback)

By Michael McFaul

Cornell University Press, United States, 2015. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English. Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. For centuries, dictators ruled Russia. Tsars and Communist Party chiefs were in charge for so long some analysts claimed Russians had a cultural predisposition for authoritarian leaders. Yet, as a result of reforms initiated by Mikhail Gorbachev, new political institutions have emerged that now require election of political leaders and rule by constitutional procedures. Michael McFaul-described by the New York Times as one of the leading Russia experts in the United States -traces Russia s tumultuous political history from Gorbachev s rise to power in 1985 through the 1999 resignation of Boris Yeltsin in favor of Vladimir Putin. McFaul divides his account of the post-Soviet country into three periods: the Gorbachev era (1985-1991), the First Russian Republic (1991-1993), and the Second Russian Republic (1993-present). The first two were, he believes, failures-failed institutional emergence or failed transitions to democracy. By contrast, new democratic institutions did emerge in the third era, though not the institutions of a liberal democracy. McFaul contends that any explanation for Russia s successes in shifting to democracy must also account for its failures. The Russian/Soviet case, he says,...



Reviews

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